

State of New Hampshire
By His Excellency
John Lynch, Governor

A Proclamation

WOMENS' EQUALITY DAY
AUGUST 26, 2007

WHEREAS, On August 26, 1920, the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution was ratified, guaranteeing American women citizens the right to vote and thus opening the door for generations of women to add their vision and voices to the political debate; and

WHEREAS, In 1921, the New Hampshire's House of Representatives welcomed its first two women legislators; and

WHEREAS, The New Hampshire Legislature has the second highest percentage of women in elected office in our nation at 36 percent; and

WHEREAS, Women in New Hampshire hold the titles of Speaker of the House, and the New Hampshire State Senate President, and;

WHEREAS, In 2007, Carol Shea-Porter became the first woman in New Hampshire to serve in the U.S. House of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, The Women's Rights Movement has had a profound impact on all aspects of American life, and has opened new opportunities for women in all fields including, commerce, athletics, business, education, religion, politics, activism, the arts, and scientific exploration; and

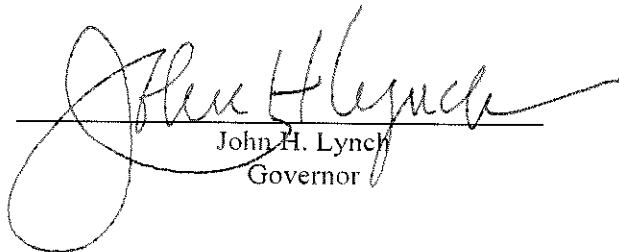
WHEREAS, In honor of Women's Equality Day, the New Hampshire Commission on the Status of Women, the Governor, and Executive Council, present the New Hampshire Commission on the Status of Women's Eleventh Annual Women's Recognition Award to a New Hampshire woman who has brought prestige and honor to herself and to the State; and

WHEREAS, JerriAnne Boggis, of Milford is receiving the 2007 Women's Recognition Award in honor of her accomplishments and contributions in gaining recognition for the first African American novelist in the United States, Harriet E. Wilson, who lived in Milford during the 19th century;

NOW THEREFORE, I, JOHN LYNCH, GOVERNOR, of the State of New Hampshire, do hereby proclaim **August 26, 2007** as **Womens' Equality Day** in New Hampshire and urge that activities be held in conjunction with this observance to increase awareness of the history of women's struggle for equality and fairness.

Given this 15th day of August in the year of Our Lord two thousand and seven, and the independence of the United States of America, two hundred and thirty-two.




John H. Lynch
Governor